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01272.020604

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: )  
HIROMITSU NISHIKAWA, et al. )  
: ) Group Art Unit: 2852  
Application No.: 10/627,657 )  
: )  
Filed: July 28, 2003 )  
: )  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD )  
AND IMAGE PROCESSING )  
APPARATUS ) August 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of documents (11) and (12) is also enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,121,196
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,508,827
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,378,033
- (4) U.S. Publication No. 2002-0021458
- (5) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0076516
- (6) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0090713
- (7) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0202197
- (8) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0202213
- (9) U.S. Publication No. 2003-0234946
- (10) U.S. Publication No. 2004-0027406
- (11) Japan 2-136848
- (12) Japan 6-242523

Documents (3) through (10) have a common inventor with, and are commonly assigned with, the subject application.

Documents (11) and (12) were cited in the specification at page 2 and are believed to be pertinent for the reasons noted in the specification.

English-language abstracts are enclosed for documents (11) and (12). In this regard, documents (1) and (2) are believed to be English-language equivalents of documents (11) and (12), respectively.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

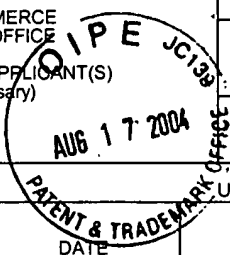
Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>01272.020604.</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/627,657</b>		
			APPLICANT <b>HIROMITSU NISHIKAWA, et al.</b>				
			FILING DATE <b>July 28, 2003</b>		GROUP <b>2852</b>		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,121,196	06/09/92	Pochieh Hung	358	75	
		5,508,827	04/16/96	Hung Po-Chieh	358	518	
		6,378,033	04/23/02	Hiroshi Nishikawa	711	103	
		2002-0021458	02/21/02	Kazuhiro Saito, et al.	358	515	
		2003-0076516	04/24/03	Kazuhiro Saito	358	1.9	
		2003-0090713	05/15/03	Kazuyuki Saito	358	1.15	
		2003-0202197	10/30/03	Kazuhiro Saito, et al.	358	1.9	
		2003-0202213	10/30/03	Kazuyuki Saito	358	1.18	
		2003-0234946	12/25/03	Kazuhiro Saito	358	1.9	
		2004-0027406	02/12/04	Hiromitsu Nishikawa, et al.	347	19	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		2-136848	05/25/90	Japan			Abstract
		6-242523	09/02/94	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1